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# NWRI

## NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE 2010-2011 Fellowship Application Details and Procedures

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*The NWRI Fellowship program is underwritten by the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation, NWRI Agency Members, NWRI Corporate Associates, NWRI Partners, and NWRI's Circle of Friends program. NWRI is very grateful for the support provided through these partnerships.*

### NWRI Fellowship Sponsors

- **Joan Irvine Smith and Athalie R. Clarke Foundation**
- **NWRI Agency Members**
  - Inland Empire Utilities Association
  - Irvine Ranch Water District
  - Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
  - Orange County Water District
  - Orange County Sanitation District
  - West Basin Municipal Water District
- **NWRI Corporate Associates**
  - Black & Veatch
  - Carollo Engineers
  - CDM
  - CH2M HILL
  - Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
  - Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.
  - MWH
  - United Water-Suez
- **NWRI Circle of Friends**
  - Mrs. Patricia Linsky
  - And more
- **NWRI Partners**
  - American Membrane Technologies Association
  - Southern California Salinity Coalition

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Application Deadline: **Thursday, April 1, 2010**

Award Announcement Timeline: **July-September 2010**

Award Distribution: **September 2010**

## **OVERVIEW OF NWRI AND SPECIALTY FELLOWSHIPS**

Under the Fellowship program, the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) of Fountain Valley, California, awards fellowships to support master's or doctoral graduate research related to:

- Water science and technology.
- Water resources.
- Water policy.

Research must pertain to NWRI's mission statement, *which is to create new sources of water through research and technology and to protect the freshwater and marine environments.*

Research areas include, but are not limited to, engineering, physical and chemical sciences, biological sciences, health sciences, political sciences, economics, and planning and public policy that are related to water and/or water resources.

NWRI also awards a limited number of specialized fellowships that may or may not be available each year. These specialized fellowships are awarded in addition to the regular NWRI Fellowship.

Please note that applicants may apply for multiple fellowships from NWRI in one application. However, applicants are limited to receiving one fellowship award only.

In addition, all applicants are eligible to receive the NWRI Fellowship, no matter which specialty fellowship they apply for.

### **NOTES ON ELIGIBILITY**

You do not have to be a U.S. citizen to receive a fellowship from NWRI, but you must be enrolled fulltime at a U.S. college or university, and the bulk of your research must be conducted in the U.S. (there are no exceptions).

Post-doctoral researchers are not eligible to receive a fellowship from NWRI.

The following fellowships are being offered for the 2010/2011 academic school year:

- NWRI Fellowships
- NWRI-Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship for Outstanding Water Research
- NWRI-AMTA Fellowships for Membrane Technology
- NWRI-Southern California Salinity Coalition Fellowship

## **DETAILS OF NWRI AND SPECIALTY FELLOWSHIPS**

### **NWRI Fellowship**

- Length of Award: 1 to 2 years  
Amount of Award: Up to \$5,000 a year  
Number Awarded: On average, four fellowships a year (amounts and lengths of awards vary)
- Requirements: Research must pertain to water, including water supply, water resources, water quality, and technologies and treatment. Research topics include (but are not limited to):
- Water treatment technologies
  - Water quality
  - Water environmental chemistry
  - Water policy and economics
  - Public health and risk assessment
  - Water resources management

### *Specialty Fellowships:*

#### **NWRI-Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship for Outstanding Water Research**

- Length of Award: 2 years  
Amount of Award: \$10,000 a year  
Number Awarded: One fellowship every 2 years  
Partners: Patricia Linsky, Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation, and other partners (see [www.nwri-usa.org/LinskyFellowship.htm](http://www.nwri-usa.org/LinskyFellowship.htm) for a list of donors)
- Requirements: Research must pertain to water, including water supply, water resources, water quality, and technologies and treatment (same as the NWRI Fellowship).  
Applicants are asked to write an additional 1-page essay detailing their technical capabilities, interest in other fields beside the one they are studying, career goals, and where they hope to take their technical expertise and vision in the future.

#### **NWRI-AMTA Fellowships for Membrane Technology**

- Length of Award: 2 years  
Amount of Award: \$10,000 a year  
Number Awarded: Two fellowships will be awarded in 2010  
Partner: American Membrane Technology Association (AMTA) ([www.amtaorg.com](http://www.amtaorg.com))
- Requirements: Research must pertain to the advancement of membrane technology in the water, wastewater, or water reuse industries. The research must be consistent with AMTA's vision statement: "Solving water supply and quality issues through the widespread application of membrane technology." Possible areas of study are:
- Innovative membrane treatment technologies
  - Use of advanced materials
  - Membrane bioreactors (MBRs)
  - Membrane fouling/scaling control

- Membrane removal efficiency
- Membrane pretreatment
- Improved feedwater recovery
- Reduced energy consumption

**NWRI-Southern California Salinity Coalition Fellowship**

Length of Award: 2 years

Amount of Award: \$10,000 a year

Number Awarded One fellowship every 2 years.

Partner Southern California Salinity Coalition ([www.socalsalinity.org](http://www.socalsalinity.org))

Limitations: This fellowship is awarded to students in Southern California universities/colleges only.

Requirements: Research must address the critical need to remove or reduce salts from water supplies and to preserve water resources in Southern California. Examples of research interests include (but are not limited to):

- Concentrate management
- Institutional and regulatory issues
- Economics of reducing salinity levels
- Innovative treatment technologies
- Regional and watershed planning solutions
- Public education and awareness

## **APPLICATION PACKAGE**

There is one set of procedures to apply for an NWRI Fellowship or a Specialty Fellowship. The application must include the following items:

<b>Application Item</b>		<b>Format</b>	<b>Delivery</b>
1	NWRI Fellowship Application Cover Sheet with Checklist	PDF	Applicant to Email to NWRI
2	Letter of Inquiry Describing Your Research Goals	PDF	
3	Current Resume	PDF	
4	Short, Original Research Proposal	PDF	
5	Letter of Endorsement from Faculty Advisor	PDF or letter	Advisor to Mail Letter or Email PDF to NWRI
6	Official Verification of Enrollment as a Fulltime Graduate Student	PDF or print-out	Applicant to Email PDF to NWRI or mail print-out to NWRI
7	Official School Transcripts	Print outs	Universities to mail to NWRI
8	Optional Essay – For applicants of the NWRI-Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship only	PDF	Applicant to Email to NWRI

### **1. NWRI FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION COVER SHEET WITH CHECKLIST.**

The NWRI Fellowship Application Cover Sheet is available as a download on NWRI's website at [www.nwri-usa.org/fellowship.htm](http://www.nwri-usa.org/fellowship.htm).

Please fill in the Application Cover Sheet, convert it to a PDF, and email it with the rest of your application to NWRI.

### **2. A LETTER OF INQUIRY DESCRIBING YOUR RESEARCH GOALS.**

The letter of inquiry (formal letter format) should be 1 to 2 pages in length, single-spaced, at 12-point font size. It must include the following information:

- Your NAME.
- Your YEAR (for instance, second-year Ph.D.; first-year M.S.).
- Your MAJOR and DEPARTMENT.
- Your UNIVERSITY.
- Your expected GRADUATION DATE.
- Your ADVISOR's name and complete CONTACT information.
- A brief BACKGROUND about yourself, including:
  - What past experiences focused your attention/interest on water resources.
  - What interested in you specifically in this research.
- The TITLE of your research project.
- A SUMMARY of your research project.
- DESCRIBE the following:
  - The importance of this research to you and to the water community.
  - How your research will contribute to water science in general.

- What you expect to accomplish.
- DESCRIBE how your research pertains to NWRI's mission to create new sources of water through research and technology and to protect the freshwater and marine environments
- DISCUSS your research budget, including:
  - Overall amount budgeted.
  - Amount the Fellowship is expected to cover.
  - How the Fellowship monies will be used and how this fits in the total scheme of your research.
  - If the Fellowship is not covering the total costs of the budget, by what means will you be funding the overall budget.

Once complete, please convert this document to a PDF.

### **3. A CURRENT RESUME (WITH COMPLETE CONTACT INFORMATION).**

In your resume, please include your permanent mailing address, as well as a current telephone number and email address where we can reach you during standard business hours. Please convert this document to a PDF.

### **4. A SHORT, ORIGINAL RESEARCH PROPOSAL (WITH TITLE).**

The research proposal should be no more than 3 pages in length, single-spaced, at 12-point font size. In those 3 pages, you may include tables, figures, photos, and references, if necessary (no appendices, please). The proposal must include:

- Your name and project's title.
- Your project's hypothesis and goals/objectives.
- Need for your research.
- Originality/uniqueness of your research.
- Greater good/ramifications of your research.
- Research approach.
- Timetable on the duration of your project.
- Estimated budget, which can include:
  - Your labor/stipend rate (if it pertains to your research).
  - Any other awards/support you are receiving on your project (do not include the fellowship award from NWRI).
  - Cost of equipment.
  - Cost of materials and supplies.
  - Cost of travel for conferences, field work, etc. (do not include NWRI meetings).
  - Costs of training (courses needed/school tuition, etc).
  - Other costs, if necessary.

*Please do not include administrative overhead charges (indirect costs) in the budget. NWRI has a longstanding policy that overhead charges may not be charged against the Fellowship award for student support.*

Please convert this document to a PDF.

## 5. A LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FROM YOUR FACULTY ADVISOR (WITH ADVISOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION).

This endorsement letter is vital to the selection process and is often the determining factor in selecting fellowship awardees; therefore, it is imperative that advisors address the following items in the 1- to 2-page letter:

- The originality and technical merit of the proposed research.
- The student's preparation to undertake the proposed research.
- The prospects for successful completion.
- The resources and support this student and/or research is receiving, including:
  - The facilities, personnel, and equipment available.
  - Financial support and institutional commitment by the University.
  - Any other awards or fellowships that the student has or will receive pertaining to this research. *Please note that having additional fellowships or scholarships does not affect eligibility to receive a Fellowship.*
  - Detailed description of how NWRI Fellowship funding will be leveraged.\*\*

*\*\*A Fellowship from NWRI is a special award to be given on top of existing funding. It is not intended to replace existing funding. That is, the NWRI funding is intended to enhance the student's current resources and support.*

To be considered for a fellowship, all the required items must be addressed in the advisor's letter.

**Note to Advisors: If you are currently receiving funding from NWRI or the Southern California Salinity Coalition (SCSC) for a research project, your students may be ineligible to apply for a Fellowship from NWRI.**

NWRI does not provide Fellowship funding to graduate students working on the same research project of a Principal Investigator receiving funding from NWRI or SCSC. However, students working on research not related to the NWRI- or SCSC-funded project may apply for a Fellowship. *It would be in the student's best interest to clarify that the student's research is not related to an NWRI or SCSC project in both the letter of inquiry and in the advisor's endorsement letter.*

Advisors may submit the endorsement letter to NWRI by April 1 in one of two ways:

### **By Email**

Advisors may email the endorsement letter as a PDF on electronic stationary, with an electronic signature, to [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org) with the following specifications:

*To:* [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org)

*From:* Advisor's email address

*Subject:* Fellowship Endorsement Letter: [Student's Name]

Please include the advisor's name and contact information, as well as the student's name, within the body of the email.

## **By Mail**

Advisors may also mail the endorsement letter on official stationary to the following:

For U.S. Postal Mail Services:  
National Water Research Institute  
Attn: Fellowship Program  
18700 Ward Street  
P.O. Box 8096  
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8096

For Federal Express:  
National Water Research Institute  
Attn: Fellowship Program  
18700 Ward Street  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708  
Phone: 714-378-3278

## **6. OFFICIAL VERIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT AS A FULLTIME GRADUATE STUDENT IN A U.S. UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE.**

This information is available through your university's Registrar office or the National Student Clearinghouse ([www.studentclearinghouse.org](http://www.studentclearinghouse.org)). We will not accept letters from your advisor stating that you are enrolled in the university as official verification of enrollment. You must have an official document, which can be mailed or sent as a PDF (if applicable) to NWRI.

*Please note that you must be actively enrolled as a fulltime graduate student to receive a fellowship. We do not award fellowships to students accepted (but not yet enrolled) in a graduate program.*

## **7. OFFICIAL SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS (IN ENGLISH) FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE DEGREES (INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL).**

These documents must be certified and mailed by the appropriate universities. For universities outside the U.S., photocopies of transcripts may be provided (please ensure the transcript is in English). Transcripts must arrive no later than April 1.

## **8. OPTIONAL ESSAY – FOR APPLICANTS OF THE NWRI-RONALD B. LINSKY FELLOWSHIP ONLY.**

Please prepare a 1-page, single-spaced essay detailing why you should receive the Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship for Outstanding Water Research. The essay must address:

- Your technical capabilities.
- Your interest in other fields beside the one you are studying.
- Your career goals.
- Where you hope to take your technical expertise and vision in the future.

Please convert this document to a PDF.

## MAILING INFORMATION

Please note that NWRI will not accept faxed applications. Your application must arrive at our office by mail or email on or by **April 1, 2010**, to qualify for a fellowship. Any application that arrives after April 1, is incomplete (without all items), or is sent by fax will be disqualified.

### By Email

The following items may be emailed to NWRI in PDF format:

- NWRI Fellowship Application Cover Sheet with Checklist
- Letter of Inquiry Describing Your Research Goals
- Current Resume
- Letter of Endorsement from Faculty Advisor (if provided as a PDF with an electronic signature)
- Short, Original Research Proposal
- Official Verification of Enrollment as a Fulltime Graduate Student (if applicable)
- Optional Essay (for applicants of the NWRI-Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship only)

A single PDF with all these items is preferred, but they may also be provided as separate PDFs.

Please email these items to [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org) with the following specifications:

*To:* [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org)  
*From:* Your email address  
*Subject:* 2010-2011 Fellowship Application Material [Your Name]  
Please include your name and contact information within the body of the email.

### By Mail

The following items may be mailed to NWRI:

- Letter of Endorsement from Faculty Advisor
- Official Verification of Enrollment as a Fulltime Graduate Student
- Official School Transcripts

For U.S. Postal Mail Services:  
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Attn: Fellowship Program  
18700 Ward Street  
P.O. Box 8096  
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8096

For Federal Express:  
National Water Research Institute  
Attn: Fellowship Program  
18700 Ward Street  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708  
Phone: 714-378-3278

## **DETAILS & REQUIREMENTS**

Fellowship awardees will be announced between July and September 2010. Recipients will be contacted by phone and/or email informing them of the award. A follow-up letter with detailed information about the reward amount and fellowship terms will be provided. All fellowship monies will be sent directly to the university.

Selections and awards made by NWRI and the Fellowship Selection Committee shall be final.

The following requirements are expected of Fellowship recipients:

- You must be continuously enrolled as a fulltime graduate student with the university.

Some fellowships are renewable, based upon adequate progress and applicability. To ensure your Fellowship is renewed for the following year:

- Your advisor must provide a letter to NWRI by June 1 expressing that you have good standing in your program at the university.
- You must demonstrate measurable progress in your research. As such, we expect you to provide short (1-2 page) progress reports twice a year to NWRI. The reports are expected to arrive electronically before April 1 and October 1 of each school year.

**For further information, please visit the “Fellowship” section of our website at [www.NWRI-usa.org/Fellowship.htm](http://www.NWRI-usa.org/Fellowship.htm)**

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